



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 146

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2000

No. 35

Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Bishop David R. Brown, Chaplain of the American Legion, offered the following prayer:

O God of our hearts, we thank You for the fullness of joy which has come to us from serving You and has made itself apparent in the growth of this great country. We ask for Your unwavering blessings that we may rediscover and strengthen the faith in ourselves, the faith in each other, the faith in the process, and the faith in You that we may live our motto "In God We Trust."

O God of hope, grant wisdom and guidance to these men and women who have been placed in positions of trust by their peers. Lead them, O Beloved, so that the desire in each of our hearts for justice and equality will resound as a clarion call throughout this hallowed Senate Chamber. We ask that Your all-encompassing love and forgiveness make equal the voice of the power broker and the most humble citizen; make equal the voice of every citizen regardless of race, creed, or gender.

Beloved, help us to renew our faith and trust in those deeply felt spiritual and reasonable truths of our forefathers that all men and women are created equal. They proposed a theory. We ask You for the strength of heart and will to give it life throughout this land of ours so that we might shine as a beacon of hope and equality, of faith and trust, for the rest of Your creation. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CRAIG THOMAS, a Senator from the State of Wyoming, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, today the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 1:30, with Senators DURBIN and THOMAS in control of the time. Following the morning business period, the Senate will begin consideration of S. Res. 14 regarding the desecration of the flag. Under a previous agreement, amendments by Senators MCCONNELL and HOLLINGS will be debated throughout the day.

As previously announced, there will be no rollcall votes today, with any votes ordered in relation to the flag desecration measure scheduled to occur on Tuesday at 2:15 p.m. Any Senators interested in debating this important measure should be prepared to do so today or early tomorrow.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2284 AND S. 2285

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for their second reading.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bills by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2284) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

A bill (S. 2285) instituting a Federal fuels tax holiday.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings on these bills at this time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the rules, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. THOMAS. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding that you have or will shortly call us into a period of morning business.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 1:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for not exceeding 10 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN, or his designee, will be in control of the first 45 minutes.

TOM FEREBEE SAW HIS DUTY AND HE DID IT AT HIROSHIMA

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, when a remarkable North Carolina native died on March 16, a more perfect world would have dictated that his death be given far more attention than it received, attention that would have invoked memories of a distinguished, decorated war veteran; a career Air Force officer; and a conscientious, hard-working real estate agent; and most importantly, it would have kindled memories of a kind, gentle grandfather who enjoyed bass fishing and tending to his beloved roses.

But, when death came to Thomas Wilson Ferebee, some of the media mentioned these fine personal qualities only in passing, but many others will remember Tom Ferebee's carrying out his awesome, solemn responsibility as

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S1695